



Ontario

Ministry of
Consumer and
Commercial
Relations

Annual Report


CA20N
PS31
-V38



3 1761 11894541 9

Office of the Registrar General

for the year ending December 31, 1987



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761118945419>



ice of the
nister

reau du
nistre

Ministry of
Consumer and
Commercial
Relations

Ministère de la
Consommation
et du
Commerce

416/963-0311

555 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2H6

June 1, 1988

The Honourable
L.M. Alexander, PC., QC., C.St.J., BA
Lieutenant Governor of the
Province of Ontario

May it please your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting, for the information of your Honour and the Legislative Assembly, the Annual Report of the Registrar General, relating to the Registration of Births, Marriages, Deaths, Stillbirths, Adoptions, Divorces and Changes of Name in the Province of Ontario, for the year ending December 31, 1987.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Wayne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "W" and "Y".

Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations
and Registrar General



Ministry of
Consumer and
Commercial
Relations

Ministère de la
Consommation
et du
Commerce

Registration
Division

Division des
Enregistrements

Office of the
Registrar General

Bureau du
registraire général

Macdonald Block
Édifice Macdonald
Parliament Buildings
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1Y5

June 1, 1988

416/963-1331

The Honourable William Wrye
Minister of Consumer and
Commercial Relations and
Registrar General
555 Yonge Street
9th Floor
Toronto, Ontario.
M7A 2H6

Dear Sir:

I have the honour to submit for your approval the
Annual Report made in conformity with and under
the provisions of the Vital Statistics Act for the
year ending December 31st, 1987.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Despina H. Georgas

Despina H. Georgas
Deputy Registrar General

DHG/ab

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

The annual report of the Office of the Registrar General has been prepared to inform Ontario citizens about the number of births, marriages, deaths, still-births, adoptions, divorces and name changes registered during the past calendar year in accordance with the office's reporting responsibilities under Section 3, subsection 5 of the Vital Statistics Act.

June 1988

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE NO.
SUMMARY OF REGISTRATION SERVICES	1
VOLUME OF REGISTRATIONS AND TABLE . . . . .	.1
PRODUCT FIGURES AND TABLE . . . . .	.2
SEARCHES . . . . .	.3
CERTIFICATES. . . . .	.3
REVENUE . . . . .	.3
REGISTRATIONS:	
Births, Deaths, Marriages	4
Re-registrations . . . . .	.5
Delayed Registrations	5
Adoptions	5
Divorces . . . . .	.6
Name Changes . . . . .	.6
Parentage File . . . . .	.6
AMENDMENTS	6
MICROFILMING AND REPRODUCTIONS	7
DATA PROCESSING . . . . .	.7
INSPECTIONS . . . . .	.7
STATISTICS	7
POPULAR GIVEN NAMES . . . . .	.8-9

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL
Annual Report
for the year ending December 31, 1987

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATION SERVICES

By statute, the Office of the Registrar General administers the Vital Statistics Act, the Marriage Act and the Change of Name Act. It also performs major statutory and statistical functions in the public service, as well as providing statistical data on births, deaths, marriages, stillbirths, adoptions, divorces and name changes to authorized agencies.

VOLUME OF REGISTRATIONS

A slight decrease in the number of total registrations has been noted in 1987.

Table No. 1 indicates the number of registrations received from January 1 to December 31, 1987. Table No. 1A reflects the number of events by year of occurrence. Since there is a one year time period before an event is considered to be a Delayed Registration, the records for 1987 events are not closed off until December 1988. Consequently, Table No. 1A reflects 1986 events closed off at December 31, 1987.

TABLE NO. 1: RETURNS RECEIVED

	1987	1986	1985
Births	130,408	131,819	133,131
Deaths	65,251	66,345	66,829
Stillbirths	797	793	953
Marriages	74,277	82,120	72,253
TOTALS	270,733	281,077	273,166

TABLE NO. 1A: COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND
MARRIAGE FIGURES, 1959-1986

<u>Year</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Marriages</u>
1959	157,124	50,600	46,598
1960	159,245	51,484	45,855
1961	157,663	50,997	44,434
1962	156,053	52,156	44,454
1963	155,089	53,617	45,306
1964	152,729	52,704	48,501
1965	141,160	54,346	51,274
1966	131,942	54,171	54,571
1967	127,509	54,878	58,377
1968	126,257	55,552	62,109
1969	130,398	55,707	67,150
1970	134,724	56,769	68,880
1971	130,395	56,623	69,590
1972	125,060	58,905	72,278
1973	123,776	59,876	72,371
1974	124,173	60,529	72,716
1975	125,701	60,550	72,208
1976	122,656	60,684	69,364
1977	122,758	61,356	67,730
1978	120,964	61,116	67,491
1979	121,655	61,468	67,980
1980	123,316	62,675	68,840
1981	125,370	64,253	71,413
1982	128,177	65,133	72,800
1983	129,281	64,936	70,958
1984	132,753	65,006	71,928
1985	134,234	67,146	72,992
1986	135,773	68,207	70,888

SEARCHES, PHOTOSTATS AND XEROX PRINTS

All applications for a registration require a search to locate the record. The fee for any certificate covers a search for a five-year period, if necessary. All applications are given a five-year search before a "no record" letter is issued. Approximately 25 per cent of all registrations, require a search of more than one year.

Last year the public requested, by mail or in person, approximately 466,000 certificates. In addition, 7,780 verifications were made for other government departments and authorized agencies.

The Chief Coroner's Office was supplied with approximately 29,223 photocopies of current death registrations which had involved a coroner. Additional photostat prints were required for this office, other jurisdictions, cancer research, statistics, corrections, amendments and other related uses.

CERTIFICATES

There was an increase of 1.1% in the number of certificates issued over 1986, as 466,518 certificates, certified copies, "no record" letters and genealogical statements were prepared.

The number of birth certificates issued for children under 5 years of age totalled 109,711 or 34.7% of birth certificates issued. In the 16 to 21 age bracket, the total was 53,534 or 16.9%. For those 18 years of age the total was 9,067 or 2.9% of all birth certificates issued.

Of the 21,728 death certificates issued, 10,946 or 50.4% related to deaths occurring in 1987 and 4,398 or 20.2% related to deaths in 1986. Only 6,384 certificates or 29.4% of the total were issued for deaths in the years between 1880 and 1985.

21,594 of the 52,516 marriage certificates issued or 41.1% related to marriages solemnized in the last ten years.

See Table No. 2 (next page)

REVENUE

The revenue collected by the Office of the Registrar General between January and December 1987 was \$5,819,521.66. Included is the revenue from searches and certificates at \$3,419,863.76, an increase of 23.1% over 1986.

TABLE NO. 2: CERTIFICATES ISSUED

	1987	% CHANGE	1986	% CHANGE	1985	% CHANGE
Births	316,618	1.0	313,286	- 6.5	334,905	4.8
Deaths	21,728	- 9.0	23,753	-10.3	26,469	1.9
Marriages	52,516	- 6.0	55,999	5.2	53,220	4.6
Certified Copies	59,118	8.0	54,732	- 4.3	57,220	-13.8
No-Record Letters	5,302	-22.0	6,793	-18.0	8,289	-12.9
Genealogy	3,176	- 6.1	8,055	- 5.3	8,505	-12.2
Change of Name	6,305					
	466,518	1.0	462,618	- 5.3	488,608	1.3

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

No serious problems relating to the registration of births, deaths and marriages occurred during the past year. Division Registrars generally adhered to the requirement that they submit weekly returns. Occasional problems, especially in small or remote areas, are usually caused by turnover of staff in municipal offices, funeral directors who are having difficulties obtaining medical statements, clergy who do not forward marriage registrations and parents who fail to register a birth. These relatively few problems are usually quickly resolved by registration and inspection staff.

Registration has been more accurate and complete in recent years because parents are more aware of its importance. The parents of each child registered automatically receive a "Notice of Birth Registration"

which contains most of the birth particulars they have provided. Parents have the opportunity to correct any errors or make any given name changes within 60 days (free of charge). These notices may also be used to apply for the child's birth certificate. This approach has encouraged parents of nearly half the children born to apply for birth certificates during the year of birth. These early applications have reduced the flood of applications formerly experienced when a child is entering school.

RE-REGISTRATION ON INTERMARRIAGE OF THE PARENTS

The provisions of the Vital Statistics Act make it possible for an unmarried mother who subsequently marries the natural father of her child to re-register the birth of that child. There were approximately 699 such cases in 1987, (a decrease of 36.5% over 1986) handled either through the mail or by having the parent visit the office.

DELAYED REGISTRATION

Most of the 927 applications for delayed registration approved in 1987, pertained to persons born before 1930. A great many applicants apply for delayed registration in order to prove eligibility for the Old Age Pension or Old Age Assistance.

REGISTRATION OF ADOPTION ORDERS

A copy of every adoption order granted by a court in Ontario is forwarded by the registrar of the court to the Office of the Registrar General together with any other information needed under the Vital Statistics Act concerning registration of adoptions. When an order regarding adoption is received by this office, and an application is made by the adopting parents for re-registration of their child, the original registration is removed and sealed and a new registration is filed which contains the particulars of the adopting parents.

During the past year, 2,971 adoption orders were filed and indexed in this office, and of these 188 were in respect to children born in other provinces. Copies of these orders were forwarded to the vital records offices of the provinces concerned. During 1987, 2,612 children were re-registered by removing the old registration and completing and substituting a new one bearing the particulars of the adoptive parents.

REGISTRATION OF DIVORCE

Details regarding dissolutions and nullities of marriage are entered in the Registry of the Supreme Court of Canada which has jurisdiction over divorces. Each province no longer has to provide copies of divorces to the province where the marriage occurred. This office receives a copy of the divorce registration for all divorces granted in Ontario and maintains an alphabetical divorce index. During 1987, 37,966 were filed, an increase of 55.08 percent over the previous year. This increase is primarily due to the 1986 federal changes in divorce law which made it easier and faster to obtain a divorce.

LEGAL CHANGE OF NAME

The Change of Name Act came into effect in 1939. Until March 31, 1987, the Act was administered by the Ministry of the Attorney General and provided a judiciary procedure by which Ontario residents could legally change their name. The new Change of Name Act 1986, received Royal Assent on January 20, 1986 and was proclaimed on April 1, 1987. The new Change of Name Act makes it easier and cheaper for Ontario residents to change their name. Instead of a judiciary procedure the Act provides a simple administrative procedure. Between January 1 to March 31, 1987, 532 change of name orders granted under the old Change of Name Act were filed with the Office of the Registrar General. In addition, 6305 change of name applications were processed under the provisions of the new Change of Name Act between April 1 and December 31, 1987.

PARENTAGE FILE

The parentage file contains parentage forms filed under the Children's Law Reform Act, 1977 and the Vital Statistics Act. There were 1,003 filings under the Children's Law Reform Act during 1987, a decrease of 87.0% over 1986. This decrease occurred because as of August 1, 1986, amendments to the Vital Statistics Act provided for both parents to sign the Statement of Live Birth without the necessity of filing additional parentage forms.

CORRECTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO REGISTRATION

Under the Vital Statistics Act, it is possible to amend or correct a vital record. During the past year under this section 3,839 registrations were amended.

As well 404 births were registered by parents' consent to single mothers and commonlaw unions.

MICROFILMING AND REPRODUCTIONS

All registrations of births, marriages, deaths, still-births and any supplementary documents filed at the time of registration or amendment/correction are microfilmed immediately. All indices prepared for these events by data processing are microfilmed annually.

In addition, 71,320 photostats and 9,936 xerox prints required for certified copies and departmental and inter-departmental use, were prepared.

DATA PROCESSING

Our data processing system provides daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual alphabetic indices for births, deaths, marriages, and still-births, and monthly indices for divorces, adoptions, changes of name, parentage, amendments and corrections. All statistical tables required for tentative figures given out from this office are also processed this way. Under agreement, completed statistical and index tapes are supplied to Statistics Canada. Any publications relating to Ontario vital statistics, prepared by the federal government, utilize data provided by this office.

INSPECTIONS

The Office of the Registrar General provides nearly 1,000 Division Registrars throughout the province with one inspector who instructs them and confirms records are maintained in accordance with the requirements of the VSA. This person also advises municipal clerks, funeral directors, hospital administrators, cemetery owners, doctors, clergy, children's aid societies, etc., and as required, assists the general public on the requirements of the VSA. The Office of the Registrar General staff conduct seminars in various cities across Ontario to provide additional assistance to the Division Registrars.

STATISTICAL SECTION

The statistical section is the centre for compiling and issuing statistics. The comprehensive Annual Statistical Report is sent to medical officers of health, division registrars of the larger centres, libraries, universities, the media and township offices. Other statistical data are supplied to various agencies upon request.

The statistical section, in co-operation with the index and microfilm sections, also provides varied types of assistance for special statistical studies. For example, various universities conduct studies on cancer and infant mortality. The assistance includes numerous index searches, data verification and the supply of selected xerox copies.

POPULAR GIVEN NAMES

The Office has been receiving increasing requests for the more popular first names given to children. As a result the Office published a listing of first given names selected 100 times or more. Table No. 3 shows a breakdown for the top 25 boys and girls names chosen in 1987.

TABLE NO. 3: MOST POPULAR GIVEN NAMES IN 1987

<u>Boys</u>		<u>Girls</u>	
<u>NAME</u>	<u>TIMES CHOSEN</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TIMES CHOSEN</u>
1. MICHAEL	2,551	JESSICA	1,854
2. MATTHEW	2,323	AMANDA	1,776
3. ANDREW	2,072	ASHLEY	1,696
4. CHRISTOPHER	1,941	SARAH	1,664
5. DAVID	1,484	JENNIFER	1,475
6. DANIEL	1,467	STEPHANIE	1,232
7. RYAN	1,444	MELISSA	1,031
8. KYLE	1,321	NICOLE	995
9. ADAM	1,227	LAURA	856
10. JUSTIN	1,175	MICHELLE	746
11. JAMES	1,060	SAMANTHA	723
12. JOSHUA	1,056	DANIELLE	663
13. ROBERT	1,008	LISA	563
14. JASON	979	EMILY	528
15. JOSEPH	957	HEATHER	508
16. KEVIN	874	MEGAN	504
17. TYLER	819	BRITTANY	498
18. JONATHAN	794	LINDSAY	493
19. NICHOLAS	780	REBECCA	493
20. JEFFREY	739	KAYLA	489
21. ALEXANDER	736	RACHEL	473
22. STEVEN	733	SHANNON	460
23. JOHN	726	AMY	454
24. SCOTT	694	CHRISTINA	443
25. MARK	660	ANDREA	442

